



Pol 27 Camb/Khmer
Department of State
TELEGRAM
ACTION COPY

TOP SECRET

Z 060330Z MAY 70 ZFF-3
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH
RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY SAIGON 369
BT

TOP SECRET PHNOM PENH 764

MODTS/KHMER

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INCN: A/CDC/IR 1 1 70
REVIEWED BY *Jublay* 10/6/80
DATE MAY 6, 1970
12:15 A.M.

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐

1. HAVE JUST COME FROM MEETING WITH GENERAL U SAY WHO HAD
HIMSELF JUST LEFT GENERAL LON NOL. FOLLOWING IS SITUATION
REPORT IN TWO AREAS AND REQUEST FOR HELP IN ONE PLUS SUGGESTED
JOINT OPERATION IN SECOND.

2. ACCORDING U SAY, IN NEAK LUONG-BANAM AREA ON EAST BANK
MEKONG, NVNA/VC HAVE ARMED GOODLY NUMBER OF LOCAL VIETNAMESE
POPULATION. ON WEST BANK RIVER ENEMY HAS ATTACKED CAMBODIAN
FORCES AT SAMRAONG THOM WT 279 581 AND HAVE ALSO ARMED A
NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE LOCALS. AS WARNING TO CAMBODIAN LOCAL
POPULATION TO COOPERATE U SAY STATES THAT ON MAY 4 ENEMY CUT
OFF HEAD OF CAMBODIAN HEAD OF FAMILY AND RETURNED SAME TO HIS
WIFE.

3. AS RESULT SITUATION JUST DESCRIBED, LON NOL HAS DECIDED
TO LAUNCH COUNTERATTACK BEGINNING TODAY MAY 6, USING KHMER
KROM AS WELL AS OTHER AVAILABLE TROOPS AND AVIATION.

4. IN CONJUNCTION WITH DRIVE, LON NOL ISSUING COMMUNIQUE
WHICH WILL BE READ OVER RADIO WARNING BOTH VIETNAMESE AND
CAMBODIAN POPULATION OF NEAK LUONG AND BANAM AREAS TO EVACUATE
AREA BUT TO CONTINUE FIGHT AROUND PREY VENG-BANAM REGION.

5. COMMUNIQUE FURTHER STATES THAT CAMBODIA HAS ASKED SVN HELP
SAVE VIETNAMESE IN AREA WHO ARE NOT VC. COMMUNIQUE CLOSES WITH
WORD REGARDING PRESENCE OF SVN DELEGATION IN CAMBODIA WHICH IS
TRYING TO GET GOOD VIETNAMESE OUT OF HARM'S WAY.

6. LON NOL REQUESTS, IF POSSIBLE, THAT SVN ARMORED COLUMN BE
SENT POST HASTE FROM SVEY RIENG TO NEAK LUONG WITH OBJECTIVE
OF REMOVING AND EVACUATING TO VIETNAM ALL VIETNAMESE POPULATION
WHO ARE NOT RPT NOT FRIENDLY TO NVNA/VC.

7. GENERAL U SAY ALSO DESCRIBED SITUATION IN NORTHEAST,
STATING KRATIE HAS FALLEN TO ENEMY AND TROOPS AND LARGE PART
OF POPULATION EVAUCATED TO WESTERN BANK.

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-2- PHNOM PENH 764, MAY 6. NODIS/KHMER

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8. HE FURTHER STATED THAT UPON INSTRUCTION GENERAL LON NOL, GENERAL POK SAM AN PROCEEDING TO BUNG LUNG AIRPORT YA 1518 IN RATANSKIRI FOR MEETING WITH VIETNAMESE COMMANDER, SECOND COMBAT TASK GROUP. CAMBODIANS ARE PORPOSING THAT PRESENT US/ARVN ATTACK INTO AREA BE TURNED INTO A COMBINED OPERATION WITH CAMBODIANS WITH AIM OF CLEARING ENTIRE AREA UP TO MEKONG RIVER.

9. COMMENT: IT WOULD APPEAR POSSIBLE THAT CURRENT NVNA/VC DEIVES TO SECURE EAST BANK MEKONG COINCIDE WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORMATION OF SIHANOUK GOVERNMENT IN EXILE AND RECOGNITION SAME BY CHICOMS, BOTH HEARALDING EARLY INSTALLATION SIHANOUK GOVERNMENT IN EASTERN CAMBODIA.

10. WHILE SUCH STEP WILL MAKE SITUATION MORE DIFFICULT BOTH FOR GOC AND USG, I CANNOT RECOMMEND THAT WE SHOULD BECOME MORE DEEPLY INVOLVED THROUGH SUCH COOPERATION AS THAT SUGGESTED IN NORTHEAST. AS CONCERNS INVOLVEMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE COLUMN TO NEAK LUONG, THIS MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED, IF PHSICALLY FEASIBLE, ON GROUNDS SUGGESTED BY CAMBODIANS THEMSELVES: THAT IS, IN ORDER REMOVE FRIENDLY VIETNAMESE POPULATION TO VIETNAM.

IF SVN TROOPS SHOULD MOVE, THEY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT SEVERAL BRIDGES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED ON ROUTE 1 AND THAT THEY WOULD THEREFORE NEED BRIDGING EQUIPMENT FOR ARMOR.

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